

**Clean Version Of The Claims Being Presented**

1. A fireplace defined by a combustion chamber bounded by a plurality of walls, at least one wall comprising a front wall facing room air to be heated, said front wall having a top edge and a bottom edge;

first plenum means for introducing air for combustion into said combustion chamber;

second plenum means for exhausting hot exhaust gases from said combustion chamber;

means including a blower for introducing said room air into a third air circulation plenum which creates heated room air from heat exchange contact with said second plenum means;

at least one horizontal opening along the top of said front face below said top edge to exhaust said heated room air outward of said front wall; and

a separate heat deflecting baffle attached contiguous to said top edge, above said at least one opening, and extending outwardly and downwardly at an angle less than 90° to said front face whereby said heated room air is deflected downwardly.

2. A fireplace as claimed in claim 1 wherein the angle of said heat deflecting baffle is between 35° and 75°.

3. A fireplace defined by a combustion chamber bounded by a plurality of walls, at least one wall comprising a front wall facing room air to be heated, said front wall having a top edge and a bottom edge;

first plenum means for introducing air for combustion into said combustion chamber;

second plenum means for exhausting hot exhaust gases from said combustion chamber;

means including a blower for introducing said room air into a third air circulation plenum which creates heated room air from heat exchange contact with said second plenum means;

at least one opening at the top of said front face below said top edge to exhaust said heated room air outward of said front wall; and

a separate heat deflecting baffle attached contiguous to said top edge, above said at least one opening, and extending outwardly and downwardly at an angle less than 90° to said front face whereby said heated room air is deflected downwardly, wherein said heat deflecting baffle comprises a base member attached to said top edge and an extension member telescopically attached to said base member.

4. A fireplace as claimed in claim 3 wherein said baffle is comprised of heat resistant material.

5. A fireplace as claimed in claim 4 wherein said heat resistant material is stainless steel.

6. A fireplace as claimed in claim 3 wherein each end of said extension member includes a vertical flange with a track, and wherein said base member includes a vertical flange which is received in said track, and catch means to permit selective movement of said extension member from a retracted position to a fully extended position.

7. A fireplace as claimed in claim 6 wherein said catch means is a spring loaded ball or bullet type attached to said vertical flange of said base member and said vertical flange of said extension member includes a plurality of spaced openings to receive said ball or bullet catch.

8. A fireplace as claimed in claim 3 wherein said extension member includes at least one knob or handle.

9. A fireplace as claimed in claim 6 wherein said extension member includes at least one knob or handle.

10. A fireplace as claimed in claim 1 wherein said combustion chamber is gas fired.

11. A fireplace as claimed in claim 3 wherein said combustion chamber is gas fired.

12. A fireplace as claimed in claim 7 wherein said combustion chamber is gas fired.

13. A fireplace defined by a gas fired combustion chamber bounded by a plurality of walls, at least one wall comprising a front wall facing room air to be heated, said front wall having a top edge and a bottom edge;

first plenum means within said walls for introducing air for combustion into said combustion chamber;

second plenum means withing said walls for exhausting hot exhaust gases from said combustion chamber;

means for introducing said room air into a third plenum within said walls which creates heated room air from heat exchange contact with said second plenum means;

at least one opening at the top of said front face below said top edge to exhaust said heated room air outward of said front wall; and

a heat deflecting baffle comprises a base member attached to said top edge above said one opening and an extension member telescopically attached to said base member, each end of said extension member includes a vertical flange with a track, and wherein said base member includes a vertical flange which is received in said track, and catch means to permit selective movement of said extension member from a retracted position to a fully extended position and to positions there between; and

wherein said catch means is a spring loaded ball or bullet type attached to said vertical flange of said base member, and said vertical flange of said extension member includes a plurality of spaced openings to receive said ball or bullet catch.

14. A direct vent fireplace defined by a combustion chamber bounded by a plurality of walls, at least one wall comprising a front wall facing a room to be heated, said front wall having a top edge;

at least one longitudinal and horizontal opening above said combustion chamber along said front wall and below said top edge for exhausting heated air into said room;

a heat deflecting baffle comprises a base member attached to a top edge of said opening;  
and

an extension member telescopically attached to said base member, to permit selective movement of said extension member downwardly and outwardly from and between a retracted position to a fully extended position.

15. A fireplace according to claim 14 wherein said combustion chamber is gas fired.

16. A fireplace according to claim 14 wherein said heat deflecting baffle extends outwardly and downwardly at an angle less than 90° to said front wall whereby heated room air is deflected downwardly.

17. A fireplace as claimed in claim 14 wherein each end of said extension member includes a vertical flange with a track, and wherein said base member includes a vertical flange which is received in said track, and catch means to permit selective movement of said extension member from a retracted position to a fully extended position.

18. A fireplace as claimed in claim 17 wherein said catch means is a spring loaded ball or bullet type attached to said vertical flange of said base member and said vertical flange of said extension member includes a plurality of spaced openings to receive said ball or bullet catch.